

Policy, Programs and Leadership

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Educational Technology (OET) coordinates Department-wide educational technology programs; develops national educational technology policy; and implements this policy through ED's programs. Working closely with the offices of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE), Educational Research and Improvement (OERI), Postsecondary Education (OPE), Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE), and Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), OET helps to ensure that ED's programs are also coordinated with efforts across the federal government. A primary focus of OET's work is evaluating the effectiveness of educational technology. OET's leadership priorities currently include: promoting equal access to technology, ensuring Internet safety, encouraging new strategies for software development, and planning the nation's long-term policy for educational technology.

Educational Technology publications are available at <http://www.ed.gov/Technology/> or by calling 1-877-4ED-PUBS or 1-800-USA-LEARN.

Our most requested publications include:

Getting America's Students Ready for the 21st Century: Meeting the Technology Literacy Challenge

Parents Guide to the Internet

An Educator's Guide to Evaluating the Use of Technology in Schools and Classrooms

Distance Education in Higher Education Institutions

Every child in America deserves the chance to participate in the information revolution.

President Clinton

National Educational Technology Goals

1. All teachers and students will have modern computers in their classrooms;
2. Every classroom will be connected to the information superhighway;
3. All teachers in the nation will have the training and support they need to help all students learn through computers and the information superhighway; and
4. Effective and engaging software and online resources will be an integral part of every school curriculum.



Educational Technology Programs

at the
U.S. Department of Education

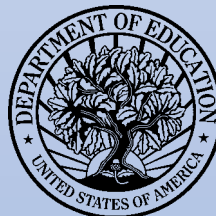
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Capacity Building

Technology Literacy Challenge Fund: This program provides funding to help states and school districts develop and implement plans to meet the four national educational technology goals. Contact OESE at 202-401-0039 or go to <http://www.ed.gov/Technology/TLCF/>.

Professional Development

Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology: This program helps ensure that tomorrow's teachers are prepared to integrate technology effectively into the curriculum and to use the new teaching and learning styles enabled by technology. Contact OPE at 202-260-1365 or go to www.ed.gov/teachtech/.

Innovation

Technology Innovation Challenge Grants: This program promotes innovative uses of educational technology by awarding grants to partnerships of school districts, universities, businesses, libraries, software designers, and others. Contact OERI at 202-208-3882 or go to <http://www.ed.gov/Technology/challenge/>.

Distance Learning

Star Schools: This program supports projects that utilize distance learning technology to provide instructional programs to students and professional development to teachers in underserved populations. Contact OERI at 202-219-2186 or go to http://www.ed.gov/prog_info/StarSchools/index.html.

Learning Anytime Anywhere Partnerships: This program supports partnerships of colleges, universities, businesses, community organizations, or other entities that deliver quality postsecondary distance education. Contact OPE at 202-708-5750 or go to <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/FIPSE/learnany.html>.

Community Networks

Community Technology Centers: This program expands access to technology centers in low-income communities. Contact OVAE at 202-205-8270 or go to <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OVAE/CTC/>.

Technical Assistance

Regional Technology in Education Consortia: These six centers provide states, school districts, adult literacy programs, and other education institutions with professional development, technical assistance and information about the use of advanced technologies to improve teaching and learning. Contact OERI at 202-219-8070 or go to <http://rtec.org/>.

Research

Interagency Education Research Initiative: This is an initiative of the U.S. Department of Education, National Science Foundation and National Institutes of Health to focus expertise in research, evaluation, and educational technology on achieving two important educational goals: Ensuring that all children have acquired the foundations of mathematics and reading by the end of grade three, and ensuring that all mathematics, science, and reading teachers have high-level content in these areas. Contact OERI at 202-219-1935 or go to <http://www.ehr.nsf.gov/eri-ed-nsf/>.

Federal Communications Commission: The FCC oversees the E-Rate (Education Rate), which provides affordable access to advanced telecommunications services for all schools and libraries in the United States. Contact the Schools and Libraries Division at 202-776-0200 or go to <http://www.sl.universalservice.org/>.

Federal Resources for Educational Excellence: An Internet tool for teaching and learning, FREE was developed by more than thirty federal agencies. It makes hundreds of federally supported education resources available at <http://www.ed.gov/free/what.html>.

Department of Commerce: The DOC Telecommunications and Information Infrastructure Application Program (TIIAP) supports planning and construction of telecommunications. Contact TIIAP at 202-482-2048 or go to <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/otiahome/otiahome.html>.

National Science Foundation: NSF makes grants and awards in all areas of science, mathematics, and engineering education. Contact NSF at 703-306-1234 or go to <http://www.nsf.gov/home/her>.

Department of Energy: DOE's ten national laboratories and thirty technology centers and research facilities provide educational experiences for students, training and curriculum materials for pre-service and in-service teachers, and literacy programs for the general public. DOE also runs Computers for Learning, which will place hundreds of thousands of surplus government computers in U.S. classrooms. Contact Computers for Learning at 888-362-7870 or go to <http://www.computers.fed.gov>.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration: NASA provides online educational programs and services. Visit <http://www.education.nasa.gov>.

U.S. Department of Agriculture: USDA's Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants support telemedicine services and distance learning services in rural areas. Contact the Rural Utilities Service at 202-720-4581 or go to <http://www.usda.gov/rus/dlt/1703.pdf>.